

CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~user interface~~ computing device, comprising:
one or more processors;
memory coupled to the one or more processors; and
a user interface implemented by executable instructions configured to be performed by the one or more processors, the user interface comprising:
 - a logon page configured to display one or more selectable logon controls each having a corresponding user-identifiable indicator;
 - a desktop page configured to display in response to a selectable logon control being selected, the desktop page further configured to display user selectable controls in one or more regions of the desktop page and persistently display the user identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control from display of the logon page to display of the desktop page;
 - a transition from the logon page to the desktop page, the transition configured to display after the selectable logon control has been selected but prior to display of the desktop page, the transition ~~further~~ configured to display the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control uninterrupted throughout the transition and to ~~gradually~~ display elimination of non-selected selectable logon controls, thereby enhancing a computing session by providing seamless continuity when a user logs onto the computing system, the transition further configured to include a user-configurable on-line selectable control enabling the user to designate an on-line status that can be displayed to other users prior to transitioning to the desktop page; and
 - a start control displayed on the desktop page that is user-selectable to initiate

that multiple applications start together at approximately a same time, the start control being configured to enable the user to select groups of applications to start together that were executing when a previous computing session was discontinued, that are often selected for use by the user, that were recently selected for use by the user, and that are most used by the user.

2. (Currently Amended) A ~~user interface~~ computing device as recited in claim 1, wherein the user-identifiable indicator is a user name corresponding to the selectable logon control for a user identified by the user name, and wherein the user name is displayed uninterrupted throughout the transition from the logon page to the desktop page.

3. (Currently Amended) A ~~user interface~~ computing device as recited in claim 1, wherein the user-identifiable indicator is an image corresponding to the selectable logon control, and wherein the image is displayed uninterrupted throughout the transition from the logon page to the desktop page.

4. (Currently Amended) A ~~user interface~~ computing device as recited in claim 1, wherein the user-identifiable indicator is an image corresponding to the selectable logon control, and wherein the image transforms to a full-size page display while being displayed uninterrupted throughout the transition from the logon page to the desktop page.

5. (Currently Amended) A ~~user interface~~ computing device as recited in claim 1, wherein the user-identifiable indicator is a portion of an image corresponding to the selectable logon control, and wherein the portion of the image transforms to a full-size page display of the image while being displayed uninterrupted throughout the transition from the logon page to the desktop page.

6. (Currently Amended) A ~~user interface~~ computing device as recited in claim 1, wherein the logon page is further configured to display the one or more selectable logon controls each having corresponding user information, and wherein the transition is further configured to display the user information corresponding to the selectable logon control uninterrupted throughout the transition.

7. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

displaying, by a computing device, a logon page with one or more selectable logon controls that each have a corresponding user-identifiable indicator;

displaying, by the computing device, a desktop page in response to a selectable logon control being selected, the user interface desktop page including user selectable controls in one or more regions of the desktop page and including persistent display of the user identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control from display of the logon page to display of the desktop page;

enabling, by the computing device, a user to initiate that multiple applications start together at approximately a same time, the enabling including enabling the user to select groups of applications to start together that were executing when a previous

computing session was discontinued, that are often selected for use by the user, that were recently selected for use by the user, and that are most used by the user; [[and]]

transitioning, by the computing device, from the logon page to the desktop page, such that a transition is configured to display after the selectable logon control has been selected but prior to display of the desktop page, and wherein the transition is further configured to display the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control uninterrupted throughout the transitioning and to ~~gradually display~~ elimination of non-selected selectable logon controls; and

providing, by the computing device, the user an online selectable control that enables the user to designate an on-line status that can be displayed to other users prior to the transitioning from the logon page to the desktop.

8. (Original) A method as recited in claim 7, further comprising displaying a user name as the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control for a user identified by the user name, and wherein the transitioning includes displaying the user name uninterrupted throughout the transitioning from the logon page to the desktop page.

9. (Original) A method as recited in claim 7, further comprising displaying an image as the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control, and wherein the transitioning includes displaying the image uninterrupted throughout the transitioning from the logon page to the desktop page.

10. (Original) A method as recited in claim 7, wherein displaying the logon page includes displaying the logon page of the one or more selectable logon controls that each have corresponding user information, and wherein the transitioning includes displaying the user information corresponding to the selectable logon control uninterrupted throughout the transitioning from the logon page to the desktop page.

11. (Currently Amended) One or more computer readable storage media comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct a computing device to perform the method of claim 7.

12. (Currently Amended) A ~~user interface~~ computing device, comprising:
one or more processors;
memory coupled to the one or more processors; and
a user interface implemented by executable instructions configured to be performed by the one or more processors, the user interface comprising:

a logon page configured to display one or more selectable logon controls each having a corresponding user-identifiable indicator;

a desktop page configured to display user selectable controls in one or more regions of the desktop page and persistently display the user identifiable indicator corresponding to a selected one of the one or more selectable logon controls from display of the logon page to display of the desktop page;

a start page configured to display before the desktop page and in response to the selectable logon control being selected on the logon page, the start page further

configured to display the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control and display one or more of the user selectable controls from any of the one or more regions of the desktop page, the start page further configured to display a user-configurable on-line selectable control enabling the user to designate an on-line status that can be displayed to other users prior to display of the desktop page;

a start control displayed on the start page that is user-selectable to initiate that multiple applications start together at approximately a same time, the start control being configured to enable the user to select groups of applications to start together that were executing when a previous computing session was discontinued, that are often selected for use by the user, that were recently selected for use by the user, and that are most used by the user; and

a transition from the logon page to the start page, the transition configured to display the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control uninterrupted throughout the transition and to ~~gradually~~ display elimination of non-selected selectable logon controls.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A user interface-computing device as recited in claim 12, wherein the user interface further comprising-comprises a transition from the start page to the desktop page, the transition configured to display the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control uninterrupted throughout the transition.

15. (Currently Amended) A user interface computing device as recited in claim 12, wherein the user interface further comprising comprises:

a first transition from the logon page to the start page, the first transition configured to display the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control uninterrupted throughout the first transition; and

a second transition from the start page to the desktop page, the second transition configured to display the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control uninterrupted throughout the second transition.

16. (Currently Amended) A user interface computing device as recited in claim 12, wherein the desktop page is further configured to display regional information in one or more of the regions of the desktop page, and wherein the start page is further configured to display the regional information from any of the one or more regions of the desktop page.

17. (Currently Amended) A user interface computing device as recited in claim 12, wherein the user-identifiable indicator is a user name corresponding to the selectable logon control for a user identified by the user name, and wherein the user name is displayed uninterrupted throughout a first transition from the logon page to the start page and continues to be displayed uninterrupted throughout a second transition from the start page to the desktop page.

18. (Currently Amended) A ~~user interface~~ computing device as recited in claim 12, wherein the user-identifiable indicator is an image corresponding to the selectable logon control, and wherein the image is displayed uninterrupted throughout a first transition from the logon page to the start page and continues to be displayed uninterrupted throughout a second transition from the start page to the desktop page.

19. (Currently Amended) A ~~user interface~~ computing device as recited in claim 12, wherein the logon page is further configured to display the one or more selectable logon controls each having corresponding user information, and wherein the user information corresponding to the selectable logon control is displayed uninterrupted throughout a first transition from the logon page to the start page and continues to be displayed uninterrupted throughout a second transition from the start page to the desktop page.

20. (Currently Amended) A ~~user interface~~ computing device as recited in claim 12, wherein the desktop page includes at least one of a taskbar region, a sidebar region, and a start menu region, and wherein the start page is further configured to display the one or more user selectable controls from any of the taskbar region, sidebar region, and start menu region of the desktop page.

21. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
displaying, by a computing device, a logon page with one or more selectable logon controls that each have a corresponding user-identifiable indicator;

displaying, by the computing device, a desktop page that includes user selectable controls in one or more regions of the desktop page and that includes persistent display of the user identifiable indicator corresponding to a selected one of the one or more selectable logon controls from display of the logon page to display of the desktop page;

displaying, by the computing device, a start page before the desktop page and in response to the selectable logon control being selected on the logon page, the start page including the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control and including one or more of the user selectable controls from any of the one or more regions of the desktop page, the start page further including an online selectable control that enables a user to designate an on-line status that can be displayed to other users prior to display of the desktop page;

enabling, by the computing device, ~~[[a]]~~ the user to initiate that multiple applications start together at approximately a same time, the enabling including enabling the user to select groups of applications to start together that were executing when a previous computing session was discontinued, that are often selected for use by the user, that were recently selected for use by the user, and that are most used by the user; and

transitioning, by the computing device, from the start page to the desktop page while displaying the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control uninterrupted throughout the transitioning and ~~gradually~~-displaying elimination of non-selected selectable logon controls.

22. (Original) A method as recited in claim 21, further comprising transitioning from the logon page to the start page while displaying the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control uninterrupted throughout the transitioning.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Original) A method as recited in claim 21, further comprising:
transitioning first from the logon page to the start page while displaying the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control uninterrupted throughout the first transitioning; and

transitioning second from the start page to the desktop page while displaying the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control uninterrupted throughout the second transitioning.

25. (Original) A method as recited in claim 21, wherein displaying the desktop page includes displaying the desktop page with regional information in one or more of the regions of the desktop page, and wherein displaying the start page includes displaying the start page with the regional information from any of the one or more regions of the desktop page.

26. (Original) A method as recited in claim 21, further comprising:
displaying a user name as the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control for a user identified by the user name; and

transitioning from the logon page to the start page and from the start page to the desktop page while displaying the user name uninterrupted throughout the transitioning.

27. (Original) A method as recited in claim 21, further comprising:

displaying an image as the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control; and

transitioning from the logon page to the start page and from the start page to the desktop page while displaying the user name uninterrupted throughout the transitioning.

28. (Original) A method as recited in claim 21, further comprising transitioning from the logon page to the start page and from the start page to the desktop page while displaying user information corresponding to the selectable logon control uninterrupted throughout the transitioning.

29. (Original) A method as recited in claim 21, wherein displaying the desktop page includes displaying the desktop page with at least one of a taskbar region, a sidebar region, and a start menu region, and wherein displaying the start page includes displaying the start page with the one or more user-selectable controls from any of the taskbar region, sidebar region, and start menu region of the desktop page.

30. (Currently Amended) One or more computer readable storage media comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct a computing device to perform the method of claim 21.

31. (Currently Amended) One or more computer readable storage media comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct a computing system to:

display a logon page with one or more selectable logon controls that each have a corresponding user-identifiable indicator;

transition from the logon page to a start page in response to one of the one or more selectable logon controls being selected while displaying the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selected one of the one or more selectable logon controls uninterrupted throughout the transition to the start page and displaying elimination of non-selected selectable logon controls;

display the start page to include the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control and to include one or more user selectable controls from any of one or more regions of a desktop page, the start page including an online selectable control that enables a user to designate an on-line status that can be displayed to other users prior to display of the desktop page;

enable ~~[[a]]~~ the user to initiate that multiple applications start together at approximately a same time, the enabling including enabling the user to select groups of applications to start together that were executing when a previous computing session was discontinued, that are often selected for use by the user, that were recently selected for use by the user, and that are most used by the user;

transition from the start page to the desktop page while displaying the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control uninterrupted throughout the transition to the desktop page; and

display the desktop page to include persistent display of the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control and to include the one or more user selectable controls and additional user-selectable controls displayed in the one or more regions of the desktop page.

32. (Currently Amended) One or more computer readable storage media as recited in claim 31, further comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct the computing system to display the desktop page to include regional information in the one or more regions of the desktop page, and display the start page to include the regional information from any of the one or more regions of the desktop page.

33. (Currently Amended) One or more computer readable storage media as recited in claim 31, further comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct the computing system to display the desktop page to include at least one of a taskbar region, a sidebar region, and a start menu region, and display the start page to include the one or more user-selectable controls from any of the taskbar region, sidebar region, and start menu region of the desktop page.

34. (Currently Amended) One or more computer readable storage media as recited in claim 31, further comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct the computing system to transition from the logon page to the start page and from the start page to the desktop page while displaying a user name as the

user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control.

35. (Currently Amended) One or more computer readable storage media as recited in claim 31, further comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct the computing system to transition from the logon page to the start page and from the start page to the desktop page while displaying an image as the user-identifiable indicator corresponding to the selectable logon control.

36. (Currently Amended) One or more computer readable storage media as recited in claim 31, further comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct the computing system to display the logon page of the one or more selectable logon controls that each have corresponding user information, and transition from the logon page to the start page and from the start page to the desktop page while displaying user information corresponding to the selectable logon control.